

II. REMARKS

The Examiner is requested to reconsider the application in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

The Examiner is requested to correct PTO records and ensure that future communications are in accordance with the Power of Attorney and Change in Correspondence filed by hand during the Examiner's interview of record.

In Paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claims 187, 213, 225, and 241 have been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112, first paragraph. The Examiner contends that these claims have missing steps which are considered critical or essential and which are not enabled by the disclosure.

In response, the rejection is respectfully traversed but believed to be moot in view of the foregoing amendment. For the record, no evidence has been offered by the PTO to establish that the contended missing steps are critical or essential (e.g., nothing in the specification indicates such criticality); if the contention is maintained, then pursuant to 35 U.S.C. Sec. 132, Applicant requests "such further information... as may be useful in judging the propriety of continuing prosecution," e.g., some evidentiary basis for the rejection. Nonetheless, it is believed that the rejection is moot in view of the foregoing amendment.

In Paragraph 6 of the Office Action, claims 187, 196, 198, 213, 225, and 241 have been rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. Sec. 112, second paragraph. The Examiner contends that the claims are indefinite.

In response, the rejection is respectfully traversed but believed to be moot in view of the foregoing amendment. For the record, it appears that the issues raised in the Office Action are directed to breadth rather than indefiniteness. Nonetheless, again, it is believed that the rejection is moot in view of the foregoing amendment.

In Paragraph 7 of the Office Action, claims 189, 201, 214, 216, 218, 219, 221, 224, 226, 227-229, 231-234, 244, 248-251, 299, and 300 have been made subject to an objection. The Examiner contends that these claims contain informalities set forth more particularly in the Office Action.

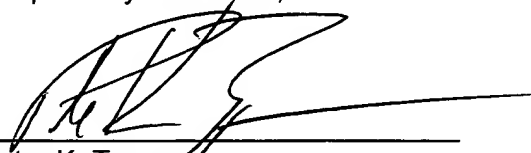
In response, it is believed that the objection is moot in view of the foregoing amendment.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the number given below, if it can in any way expedite prosecution. Please note that dependant claims have been cancelled to simplify and expedite prosecution.

III. FEE

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the above-identified patent application or credit any overcharges to Deposit Account No. 50-0235. Additionally, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (312) 240-0824 if it can in any way expedite or ease the handling of this case. Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned at the address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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